

appear in one of the forthcoming volumes. I think you know that the manuscript was left in a nearly complete form, and that the publication will now go on rapidly. It was a matter of keen regret to Mr. Scott that there should have been this long delay, but it was due to no fault of his, but to the fact, I think, that it was not possible to hasten a work involving so many different subjects.

Mr. Scott died, rather suddenly, at his home at Saranac Lake, on the 21st of August, 1910, leaving a widow (Marion Johonot Scott) who, it is stated, is nearly as great a Bird-lover as her late talented husband, and who constantly assisted him in his work.

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### XXIII.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

[Continued from p. 398.]

#### 62. '*Annals*' of the Natural History Society of Cyprus.

[Cyprus Natural History Society, *Annals*, No. ii. Jan. to Dec. 1910. Nicosia, Cyprus, 1911.]

We are glad to find that the Naturalists of Cyprus are continuing their good work, and have issued a second number of their *Annals*. It records a "very successful year" in 1910, and the reading of several papers on birds before the Society. The past year has been remarkable, we are told, for a very large number of observations and records, and the names of more than thirty species have been added to the Cyprian List. We will not specify them, as Mr. Bucknill has promised us a special paper on the subject, which we hope to be able to print in our next number.

In this number of the '*Annals*' there are also notices on the Mammals, Reptiles, Mollusks, and Lepidoptera of Cyprus.

#### 63. '*Archivum Zoologicum*.'

[*Archivum Zoologicum*, redactionis curam gerentibus Cs. de Pete, Dr. J. de Madarász et E. Csiki. A laboratorio Zoologico Hungarico editum. Budapest, 1909-10.]

We have already noticed one of Dr. J. v. Madarász's

papers in this new Journal (see above, p. 175). We have now received vol. i. no. 2, which contains another paper by the same author. It describes a new *Ædicnemus* from German East Africa, proposed to be called *Ædicnemus csongor*.

#### 64. *Arrigoni's Ornithological Note.*

[Nota ornitologica sopra la recente cattura della *Geocichla sibirica* in Italia. Conte Arrigoni degli Oddi. Atti R. Ist. Veneto, lxx. p. 2 (1910).]

In October 1908 Count Arrigoni obtained in the market at Padua a Thrush which he believes to be a young female of *Turdus sibiricus*, and has had it preserved for his own collection at Ca' Oddo. After an exact description of the specimen, he adds a list of the examples of this Siberian species hitherto recorded in Germany (13), Bohemia (2), Holland (2), Great Britain (2), and France, Belgium, and Norway each once. It is, in fact, an occasional wanderer to Western Europe.

#### 65. 'The Auk.'

[The Auk. A Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vol. xxvii. No. 4, Oct. 1910; Vol. xxviii. Nos. 1, 2, Jan.-April, 1911.]

The most valuable information contained in these three numbers is undoubtedly that given in April on the discovery of the nest and eggs of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper (*Eurynorhynchus pygmaeus*) by Mr. J. E. Thayer. Mr. Koren was sent by him to Wrangel Island, but was driven back by storms, and it was left to Capt. F. Kleinschmidt to find the first specimens at Cape Serdze, on the eastern coast of Siberia. Four eggs were obtained, along with the parent bird, as well as eight chicks in down, and our American kinsfolk are heartily to be congratulated on their success. Heads of both adult and young are figured in colour, and all four eggs.

Second in interest to this great discovery are various articles on the Passenger Pigeon by Messrs. A. H. Wright, C. F. Hodge, and F. H. Allen. The first furnishes early

records from the writings of the Jesuit Fathers and others referring to many of the United States and to Canada; the second records the failure of the attempts to discover living examples of the bird by the offer of prizes; the third repeats Thoreau's information from his 'Notes on New England Birds.' A translation by S. M. Gronberger of a paper from the Swedish by Pehr Kalm, on the "Wild Pigeons which visit the Southern English Colonies in North America," may be taken in connexion with the others; for this we are indebted to Dr. T. Gill, who unearthed the Swedish original. These articles lead to several notes in the April number (pp. 259-262).

Mr. W. Brewster has a most interesting account in the January number of the manner in which the nuptial plumes of certain Bitterns are displayed; while in that of October Dr. J. A. Allen reviews the Third Edition of the A.O.U. Check-list, and in that of January Mr. F. M. Chapman describes and figures in colour a new species of American Hang-nest (*Icterus fuertesi*) from the Tamesi River in Mexico.

Of distributional papers there is no lack, that of Mr. J. H. Bowles being of the most general interest, as it deals with the extension of range of certain species on the whole Pacific slope. Others are by Mr. A. H. Howell on the birds of the "sunken lands" of S.E. Missouri; by Mr. S. S. Visher on those of Harding County, S. Dakota; by Mr. A. A. Saunders on those of Gallatin County, Montana; by Mr. H. Lacey on those of Kirsville, Texas; by Mr. A. W. Honeywill on those of the Lake Region of Minnesota; and by Mr. J. C. Phillips on those of the State of Tamaulipas, Mexico. The last-named describes as new *Strix virgata tamaulipensis*, *Heleodytes narinosus*, and *Dendræca æstiva inedita*.

Several papers are contributed by ladies: Mrs. C. J. Stanwood writing on nests of *Dendræca magnolia*, Mrs. F. M. Bailey on the wild life of an alkaline lake and the Mogollon Mountains in New Mexico, and Mrs. A. R. Sherman on the breeding of Brewster's Warbler in Massachusetts.

Finally, Mr. W. E. C. Todd discusses fully the Bahaman

species of *Geothlypis*; Mr. H. W. Wright the Ducks at Boston; Mr. J. C. Phillips the migration of the Anatidæ at Wenham Lake, Massachusetts; Mr. S. P. Fay the Canvas-back in the same State; Mr. N. McClintock the habits of the Hermit-Thrush; Mr. A. H. Norton the occurrences in America of *Larus minutus*; Mr. F. Smith the breeding in Illinois of *Phalacrocorax auritus*; Mr. J. C. Wood the Warblers of Wayne County, Michigan; Mr. A. R. Sherman the nesting-habits of the Screech Owl; Mr. C. H. Kennedy the Sage Thrasher; Messrs. Barbour and Phillips what they term "concealing coloration"; while Mr. J. H. Sage reports on the 28th Meeting of the A. O. U.

66. 'The Avicultural Magazine.'

[Avicultural Magazine. Third Series, Vol. ii. Nos. 5, 6, 7 (March-May, 1911).]

In a most interesting article, contained in the March number, Sir William Ingram gives an account of his attempt to acclimatize the Greater Bird-of-Paradise in the West Indies. He has bought the island of Little Tobago and turned out forty-eight birds, some of which he hoped might be females, while two others were to be sent later. The report of the Swiss sailor Herold, who acts as caretaker of the 400 acres of forest jungle, of which the island consists, tells us that the birds have spread over the whole area, but never leave it; they eat fruit, insects, and even young birds and eggs of other species. Four only have died, but none have mated. Mr. R. Cosgrave furnishes notes on the Cranes at Lilford Hall, including the breeding of *Grus leucauchen* (pl.), *G. leucogeranus*, and hybrids of *G. canadensis* with *G. viridirostris*; Dr. Butler writes further on the duration of birds' lives in captivity; and Mr. G. M. Mathews on the nests and eggs of some Australian species (*Mirafraga milligani*, *Pachycephala melanura*, *P. lanioides*, *Rhipidura alisteri*, *Corvus marianæ*, *Psephotus dulciei*, and *Platycercus ceciliæ*), with a few other notes. We have also the regular Bird-notes from the Zoological Gardens, by the Curator, and a report on the Crystal Palace Bird-show by Messrs. A. Silver

and D. Seth-Smith; while the following articles deal with separate species of birds: Mr. F. E. Blaauw on *Bernicla melanoptera* (pl.), Miss Dorien Smith on *Tudorna variegata*, Mr. T. H. Newman on *Columba leuconota* (col. pl.), Mr. H. Willford on *Turacus corythaix* and *Oriolus trailli* (pl.), Mr. P. Galloway on *Dendrocopus minor*, Mr. C. Maxwell on *Cinnyris asiaticus*, Miss K. Currey on *Loxia curvirostra*, Miss A. Hutchinson on *Bucorax cafer*. Articles on practical Bird-keeping treat of Doves (Miss Alderson) and Parrakeets (Mr. Seth-Smith).

#### 67. Dubois on new Birds from Congoland.

[Descriptions d'oiseaux nouveaux du Congo Belge, par le Dr. Alph. Dubois. Rev. Franç. d'Ornithologie. No. 22. Février, 1911.]

Dr. Dubois describes three new birds from the Belgian Congo under the names *Dendromus kasaicus*, *Cinnyris chloropygius* var. *pauwelsi*, and *Zosterops virens* var. *reichenowi*. He does not state where the specimens upon which these names are based are to be found, but we presume that they are in the Congo Museum at Tervueren.

#### 68. Eckhardt on the Migration of Birds.

[Die geographischen Grundlagen des Vogelzug Problems. Von Dr. Wilh. Eckhardt, Aachen. Petermann's Mitteilungen, 56. Band, 1910, p. 241.]

Ornithology, like other branches of Biology, is closely connected with Geography. We are therefore pleased to find an ornithological article in one of the leading Geographical Journals. Dr. Eckhardt, who has previously written on Bird-migration, gives us here a general sketch of this important subject, but does not appear to have pushed its elucidation much farther, nor to be very well acquainted with some of the recent practical work in connection with it. We cannot believe that the rise and fall of the barometer has so much to do with migration, as some writers have supposed.

## 69. 'The Emu.'

[The Emu. A Quarterly Magazine to popularize the Study and Protection of Native Birds. Vol. x. pts. 3, 4, 5. Dec. 1910-April 1911.]

A (special) third part of the tenth volume of our contemporary is devoted to the doings of the session of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union, as it is now by the King's permission to be called, at Brisbane in October 1910. An address was given by Sir William MacGregor, Governor of the State, and another by Mr. A. J. Campbell, as President of the Union. Besides shorter excursions, a large party made an expedition to the Capricorn Islands at the south of the Barrier Reef, while Dr. William MacGillivray subsequently proceeded to the northern groups, Mr. J. W. Mellor to the Blackall Ranges, and Captain S. A. White to Tambourine Mountain.

Accounts are given of all these expeditions, with lists of the species of Birds observed. The White-capped Noddy was very plentiful on the Capricorn Islands, and the Wedge-tailed Petrel proved to be *Puffinus sphenurus* of Gould; Mr. Mellor met with the Rifle-bird, Regent-bird, and Cat-bird of the district; while Captain White found a nest and eggs of the Satin Bower-bird.

Examples of several new species, described by Mr. A. J. Campbell, had been collected in North-Western Australia by Mr. G. F. Hill for Mr. H. L. White, namely, *Falcunculus whitei*, *Ptilotis planasi*, and *Micræca brunneicauda* from Napier, Broome Bay, and *Eopsaltria hilli* from Hecla Island; while Mr. D. Le Souef also described as new *Trichoglossus colesi* from Gladstone in Queensland.

In this part, moreover, Mr. K. Broadbent writes on Birds observed in the Cardwell and Herbert River Districts in 1887 and 1889, and calls attention to the habits of *Scenopæetes dentirostris*, *Scythrops novæ-hollandiæ*, and *Megapodius duperreyi*.

In Part 4 we have an excellent paper, full of information, entitled "Field-Notes on the Birds of Kimberley, North-

West Australia," by Mr. G. F. Hill, already mentioned, and another new species described from his collection, *Erythrotriorchis rufotibia*. Mr. A. F. Basset Hull writes on the breeding of *Æstrelata leucoptera* on Cabbagetree Island, N.S.W., where Gould formerly recorded the bird; Mr. H. L. White describes the nest and eggs of *Calamanthus montanellus*, and Mr. E. Ashby a new species, *Ephthianura lovensis*, from Leigh's Creek, S.A.

In Part 5, Mr. F. L. Whitlock gives us his observations on the birds of the Stirling Ranges, Western Australia. In particular, he met with *Calamanthus montanellus*, *Malurus pulcherrimus*, and *Melithreptus leucogenys*, and obtained nests and eggs of the two former for Mr. H. L. White, who was responsible for the expedition.

A paper by Mr. G. M. Mathews should be carefully studied by all working at Australian birds, as it gives alterations in nomenclature required to bring his "Hand-list" up to date, while he accepts all the rules of the International Congresses. Mr. S. W. Jackson writes on the haunts of *Atrichornis rufescens* in the "scrubs" of New South Wales, where he found the nest and eggs, but failed to procure the female. Finally, Mr. H. L. White describes as new the eggs of *Cracticus mentalis*, *Xanthotis filigera*, *Trichoglossus septentrionalis*, and *Halcyon barnardi*, all from Cape York, Queensland.

#### 70. Flower's List of Animals in the Giza Gardens.

[Government of Egypt. Public Works Department. Zoological Gardens, Giza, near Cairo. Special Report, No. 5. List of Animals (2nd edition). By Stanley S. Flower, Director. Price Five Shillings. Cairo National Printing Department, 1910. 1 vol. 8vo. 372 pages, 20 plates.]

Our friend, Capt. Flower, ever active, sends us a copy of a new edition of his list of the animals now (or lately) living in the beautiful Gardens at Giza, near Cairo, of which he is Director. Besides the scientific names the List contains the vernacular name of each bird in English, French, German, and Arabic (where it has one), and much other useful

information, especially as regards the length of life of specimens in the Gardens.

The Mammals are naturally the most important group in the Giza Gardens, as in all other collections of living animals—they number 273 species; but the Birds are still more numerous, we find 420 species registered. These species are mostly such as are (or have been) exhibited in the Regent's Park, but some of them are not to be found in the Zoological Society's Catalogue, e. g., *Sylvia rueppelli*, *Acrocephalus stentoreus*, *Dinimellia dinimelli*, and *Ibis hagedash*.

The volume is well and correctly printed, on good paper, and in every respect does credit to Cairo. One more advantage is that among the scientific names there are very few trinomials!

71. *Grinnell on the Birds of the Campus of the University of California.*

[Birds of the University Campus. By Joseph Grinnell. University of California Chronicle, xiii. No. 1 (1911).]

The campus of the University of California at Berkeley, containing about 530 acres, has been carefully watched by Mr. Grinnell since August 1908, and the birds observed on it have been noted. Mr. Grinnell has recognized permanent residents 31, winter visitants 21, summer visitants 21, transients 3—total 76 species. The total "Avian Population" of the campus is estimated at 10,000.

72. *Hall on the Distribution of Australian Land-birds.*

[The Distribution of Australian Land-birds. By Robert Hall, C.M.Z.S., M.B.O.U. Proc. Roy. Soc. Tasmania, 1910.]

In 1906 Mr. Hall had indicated what he considered to be the lines of the geographical distribution of the Passerine Birds in Australia, and the chief direction of their expansion over that continent. In the present paper he proposes to make some corrections to his former statements. He still adheres to the view that almost the whole of the present Avifauna had its origin in the Papuan Subregion and entered



Australia from the north-east, but that a few of the genera (such as *Mirafra*, *Pomatostomus*, and *Xerophila*) arrived by an ancient bridge that formerly connected Timor with the Australian continent.

These views are fully explained in the present paper, and accompanied by tables of the genera on which they are based.

73. *Jackson on the Game-birds of East Africa.*

[Game-birds of the East-Africa and Uganda Protectorates. By F. J. Jackson. Journ. E. Afr. and Uganda Nat. Hist. Soc. vol. i. p. 60.]

We are glad to receive a copy of the second number\* of this newly-established Society's Journal. The Fauna and Flora of our new Protectorates are so rich, and their physical features are so varied, that there is an enormous field of work for those who take an interest in Natural History. Mr. Jackson, than whom we suppose no one is better acquainted with the Birds of British East Africa and Uganda, continues in a second paper his account of the "Game-birds" of these countries. Under this title are included members of four different groups—Quails, Guinea-fowls, Hemipodes, and Sand-Grouse, which altogether number 18 species in East Africa. To these should be added the 16 Francolius described by Mr. Jackson in his first article on this subject, which makes the so-called "Game-birds" of East Africa 34 in number.

74. *Kirkman on British Birds.*

[The British Bird Book. Edited by F. B. Kirkman. London and Edinburgh: T. C. & E. C. Jack. Sections ii.-iv.]

The three parts of this quarto publication now before us contain the Buntings, Larks, Wagtails, Pipits, the Creeper, the Wren, the Dipper, the Thrushes, the Warblers, the Hedge-Sparrow, the Starlings, the Oriole, and the Waxwing. The descriptions by Mr. Pycraft are, as usual, good, if rather long for the tyro, and the life-histories of the birds are well

\* Cf. 'Ibis,' 1910, p. 748.

written, and often excellent, though even these might with advantage be shorter in the case of some of the commoner species. The nest and eggs are the special province of Mr. Jourdain, and the migration falls chiefly to Mr. Thomson, but no invariable rule is adopted, and Messrs. Pycraft and Bonhote between them contribute several articles. A pleasing feature in the book is the introduction of pretty photographs of nests with their surroundings and often with the parent birds; while the coloured plates of eggs by Mr. Grönvold are excellent. About the other coloured plates, which are fanciful and unnatural, the less said the better.

75. *Mathews on the Birds of Australia.*

[The Birds of Australia. By Gregory M. Mathews. Vol. i. pt. 3. London: Witherby & Co., April 1911.]

This part of Mr. Mathews's fine work concludes the Pigeons, all of which are figured except *Geophaps shortridgei* (which the author believes to be a hybrid between *G. tranquilla* and *G. cuneata*) and *Lophophaps leucogaster*.

The genera treated are *Chalcophaps* (with the species *C. chrysochlora* and the subspecies *C. longirostris*), *Phaps* (*P. elegans* and *P. chalcoptera*), *Histriophaps* (*H. histrionica*), *Petrophassa* (*P. albipennis* and *P. rufipennis*), *Geophaps* (*G. scripta* and *G. smithii*), *Lophophaps* (*L. ferruginea*, *L. plumifera*, and its subspecies *L. p. leucogaster*), *Ocyphaps* (*O. lophotes*), and *Leucosarcia* (*L. melanoleuca*). The last-named has its name changed from *L. picata*, in accordance with Mr. Mathews's views on strict priority. Moreover, he considers the *Chalcophaps occidentalis* of North identical with *C. longirostris* of Gould, while he corrects the locality of the original describer in such cases as *Phaps chalcoptera*. We notice that the names on some of the plates do not correspond with the letterpress, but we understand that the plates were printed off in advance and that corrections in the text were inevitable. The same may be said with regard to the colours of the soft parts, where further information has been procured. *Petrophassa rufipennis* is only the second Australian

Pigeon of which the author has been unable to describe the breeding.

76. *Menegaux on the Birds of Ecuador.*

[Mission du Service géographique de l'Armée pour la mesure d'un Arc de Méridien Equatorial en Amérique du Sud, sous la Contrôle scientifique de l'Académie des Sciences de France 1899-1906. Étude des oiseaux de l'Equateur rapportés par le Dr. Rivet. Par A. Menegaux. 4to. 128 pp.]

The French scientific mission, sent out to Quito in 1899 to examine the arc of the meridian under the Equator measured in the seventeenth century, was accompanied by Dr. Rivet as medical officer. Dr. Rivet, during the five years that he stayed in Ecuador, made a collection of birds of which M. Menegaux gives us an account in the present memoir. The collection consists of 885 specimens, belonging to 290 species.

The philosophers of the 17th century did not pay much attention to Birds, and nothing is recorded by our author concerning the Avifauna of Ecuador until Sclater's publication in 1854 of an essay on the Birds of the province of Quixos. This was quickly followed by a series of papers on the birds of Ecuador collected by Louis Fraser, under Sclater's instructions and at his expense; Buckley, Stubel and Wolf, Jelski, Stolzmann, Rosenberg, and Goodfellow followed Fraser's steps, and were so successful that we find only *one* species (*Philydor columbianus*) described as new to science in the present memoir.

There are no collectors' notes given by M. Menegaux, nor are the exact localities of the specimens brought home always stated. But the memoir will be useful to those who are studying the Bird-life of the adjoining republics, and would have been still more useful if it had been accompanied by a map.

Four coloured plates represent *Tinamus latifrons*, *Odontophorus melanonotus*, *Grallaria gigantea*, and *Philydor columbianus riveti*; and a useful list of previous writings on the Birds of Ecuador is given.

77. *North on the Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds.*

[Nests and Eggs of Birds found breeding in Australia and Tasmania. By Alfred J. North, C.M.Z.S. Vol. iii. Part 1.\* Sydney, 1911.]

We have received another part of this valuable work. In it the account of the Australian Cuckoos is finished and that of the Parrots is commenced. Many interesting particulars are given concerning the breeding-habits of the Australian Cuckoos. It appears to be now quite settled that *Cucu'us inornatus* in some cases feeds its own young. A startling picture, taken from a photograph, is given of "Fred" (an Australian aboriginal) taking a nest of the Blue-tailed Lorrikeet.

78. *Percival on European Migrants in British East Africa.*

[European Migrants in British East Africa. By A. B. Percival. Journ. E. Afr. Nat. Hist. Soc. vol. i. p. 101 (1911).]

This is a nicely written paper upon a very interesting subject, and Mr. Percival deserves our thanks for calling attention to it. British East Africa, he reminds us, is half-way between the winter and summer residences of many European migrants, and a series of dates when birds pass through it on their southern journey, and again on their return trip, would be of great importance. Mr. Percival, whose business it is to wander about the country as Game-warden, has excellent opportunities for occasionally turning his attention to Birds, and invites his brother-members of the Natural History Society of East Africa and Uganda to aid him in this task. We trust that they will follow his excellent advice.

Mr. William Sclater read a paper on South-African migration before the British Association in 1905, and Mr. Percival copies Mr. Sclater's list of migrants and makes remarks on it. At least ninety species of the South-African Avifauna are known to go north every year to breed in Northern Europe and Asia, and must necessarily pass through Africa on their journey. It is probable that a large

\* See 'Ibis,' 1910, p. 367, for notice of vol. ii. Part 3.

proportion of these take the British East African route, where Mr. Percival assures us that migrants, especially Waders, are abundant in October and March.

79. *Salvadori on a new Albatross.*

[T. Salvadori. Specie apparentemente nuova del genere *Thalassogeron*. Boll. Mus. Zool. ed Anatomia comp. Univ. Torino, xxxvi. No. 638.]

Count Salvadori bases his new Albatross (*Thalassogeron desolationis*) on a specimen in the Turin Museum obtained at Desolation Island in the Magellan Straits, near the Pacific entrance. It is most nearly allied to *T. culminatus*.

80. *Thayer and Bangs on new Birds from China.*

[Descriptions of new Birds from Central China. By John E. Thayer and Outram Bangs. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. vol. lii. no. 8.]

From a collection of 3000 skins made by Mr. W. R. Zappey in the Province of Hupeh, Central China, the following are described as new:—*Callocalia fusciphaga* (qu. *fusciphaga*?) *capnitis*, *C. inopina*, *Turdus cardis lateus*, *Parus major artatus*, *Nucifraga hemispila macella*, *Cyornis tickelliae glaucicomans*, *Niltava lychnis*, and *Cyanoptila cumatilis*.

XXIV.—*Letters, Extracts, and Notes.*

WE have received the following letters addressed to the Editors:—

SIRS,—You will be glad to hear that the magnificent collection of African birds formed by the late Mr. Boyd Alexander during his travels, and bequeathed by him to the Natural History Museum, has now been handed over to that Institution by his brother, Mr. Robert Alexander, as executor.

It includes the collections formed during his expeditions